BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents *will not* correct images, please do not report the images to the Image Problem Mailbox.

2. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from any of:

(a) SEQ ID Nos: 2 to 13;

(b) a sequence which encodes a polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 2 to 13;

(c) a sequence comprising at least 38 consecutive nucleotides from any one of the nucleic acid sequences of (a) and (b); and

(d) a sequence which encodes a polypeptide which is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to any one of the polypeptides encoded by SEQ ID Nos: 2 to 13.

3. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence which is anti-sense to the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

4. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a fusion protein, said fusion protein comprising a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 and a second polypeptide.

5. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 wherein the second polypeptide is a heterologous signal peptide.

6. (Amended) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 wherein the second polypeptide has adjuvant activity.

7. (Amended) A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, operatively linked to one or more expression control sequences.

8. (Amended) A vaccine comprising a vaccine vector and at least one first nucleic acid selected from any of:

(i) SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(ii) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(iii) a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 38 consecutive nucleotides from any one of the nucleic acid sequences of (i) and (ii);

(iv) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a polypeptide which is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(v) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a polypeptide whose sequence is set forth in any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26;

(vi) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes an immunogenic fragment comprising at least 12 consecutive amino acids from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26; and

(vii) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a polypeptide as defined in (i) to (v) or an immunogenic fragment as defined in (vi) which has been modified without loss of immunogenicity, wherein said modified polypeptide or fragment is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the corresponding polypeptide of (i) to (v) or the corresponding fragment of (vi);

wherein each first nucleic acid is capable of being expressed.

9. (Amended) A vaccine comprising a vaccine vector and at least one first nucleic acid encoding a fusion protein, wherein the fusion protein comprises:

(a) a first polypeptide selected from any of:

(i) a polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 38 consecutive nucleotides from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(iii) a polypeptide which is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(iv) a polypeptide whose sequence is set forth in any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26;

(v) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least 12 consecutive amino acids from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26; and

(vi) a polypeptide as defined in (i) to (iv) or an immunogenic fragment as defined in (v) which has been modified without loss of immunogenicity, wherein said modified polypeptide or fragment is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence

to the corresponding polypeptide of (i) to (iv) or the corresponding fragment of (v); and

(b) a second polypeptide;

wherein each first nucleic acid is capable of being expressed.

10. (Amended) The vaccine of claim 9 wherein the second polypeptide is a heterologous signal peptide.

11. (Amended) The vaccine of claim 9 wherein the second polypeptide has adjuvant activity.

12. (Amended) The vaccine of any one of claim 8 wherein each first nucleic acid is operatively linked to one or more expression control sequences.

13. (Amended) A vaccine according to claim 8 wherein each first nucleic acid is expressed as a polypeptide, and wherein the vaccine comprises a second nucleic acid encoding an additional polypeptide which enhances the immune response to the polypeptide expressed by the first nucleic acid.

14. (Amended) The vaccine according to claim 13 wherein the second nucleic acid encodes an additional *Chlamydia* polypeptide.

15. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a vaccine according to claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. (Amended) A unicellular host transformed with the nucleic acid molecule of claim 7.

18. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid probe of 5 to 100 nucleotides which hybridizes under stringent conditions to any one of nucleic acid molecules of SEQ ID Nos: 2 to 13, or to a complementary or anti-sense sequence of said nucleic acid molecule.

19. (Amended) An isolated primer of 10 to 40 nucleotides which hybridizes under stringent conditions to any one of nucleic acid molecules of SEQ ID Nos: 2 to 13, or to a complementary or anti-sense sequence of said nucleic acid molecule.

20. (Amended) A polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 2.

21. (Amended) A polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from any one of:

(a) SEQ ID Nos: 15 to 26;

(b) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least 12 consecutive amino acids from a polypeptide of (a); and

(c) a polypeptide of (a) or (b) which has been modified without loss of immunogenicity, wherein said modified polypeptide is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the corresponding polypeptide of (a) or (b).

22. (Amended) A fusion protein comprising a polypeptide of claim 21 and a second polypeptide.

23. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 22 wherein the second polypeptide is a heterologous signal peptide.

24. (Amended) The fusion protein of claim 22 wherein the second polypeptide has adjuvant activity.

25. (Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide of claim 21, comprising the step of culturing a unicellular host transformed with a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide of claim 21.

26. (Amended) An antibody against the polypeptide of claim 21.

27. (Amended) A vaccine comprising at least one first polypeptide selected from any one of:

(i) a polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 38 consecutive nucleotides from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(iii) a polypeptide which is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;

(iv) a polypeptide whose sequence is set forth in any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26;

(v) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least 12 consecutive amino acids from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26; and

(vi) a polypeptide as defined in (i) to (iv) or an immunogenic fragment as defined in (v) which has been modified without loss of immunogenicity, wherein said modified polypeptide or fragment is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the corresponding polypeptide of (i) to (iv) or the corresponding fragment of (v).

28. (Amended) A vaccine comprising at least one fusion protein, wherein the fusion protein comprises:

(a) a first polypeptide selected from any of:

- (i) a polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;
- (ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 38 consecutive nucleotides from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;
- (iii) a polypeptide which is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the polypeptide encoded by any one of SEQ ID Nos: 1 to 13;
- (iv) a polypeptide whose sequence is set forth in any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26;
- (v) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least 12 consecutive amino acids from any one of SEQ ID Nos: 14 to 26; and
- (vi) a polypeptide as defined in (i) to (iv) or an immunogenic fragment as defined in (v) which has been modified without loss of immunogenicity, wherein said modified polypeptide or fragment is at least 75% identical in amino acid sequence to the corresponding polypeptide of (i) to (iv) or the corresponding fragment of (v); and

Cont a'

(b) a second polypeptide.

29. (Amended) The vaccine of claim 28 wherein the second polypeptide is a heterologous signal peptide.

30. (Amended) The vaccine of claim 28 wherein the second polypeptide has adjuvant activity.

31. (Amended) A vaccine comprising at least one first polypeptide according to claim 20 and an additional polypeptide which enhances the immune response to the first polypeptide.

32. (Amended) The vaccine of claim 31 wherein the additional polypeptide comprises a *Chlamydia* polypeptide.

33. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide according to claim 20 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

34. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a vaccine according to claim 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

35. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody according to claim 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

36. (Amended) A method for preventing or treating *Chlamydia* infection comprising administering to a patient an effective amount of:

Sub C7

(a) a nucleic acid according to claim 2;

(b) a vaccine comprising a vaccine vector and at least one first nucleic acid according to claim 2;

Cnt a1

(c) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

(d) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid according to claim 2; or

(e) an antibody against a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid according to claim 2.

37. (Amended) A method of detecting *Chlamydia* infection comprising the step of assaying a body fluid of a mammal to be tested, with a component selected from any one of:

(a) a nucleic acid according to claim 2;

(b) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid according to claim 2; and

(c) an antibody against a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid according to claim 2.

38. (Amended) A diagnostic kit comprising instructions for use and a component selected from any one of:

(a) a nucleic acid according to claim 2;

(b) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid according to claim 2; and

(c) an antibody against a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid according to claim 2.

39. (Amended) A method for identifying a polypeptide ~~of~~ claim 20 which induces an immune response effective to prevent or lessen the severity of *Chlamydia* infection in a mammal previously immunized with polypeptide, comprising the steps of:

(a) immunizing a mouse with the polypeptide of claim 20; and

(b) inoculating the immunized mouse with *Chlamydia;*

wherein the polypeptide or fusion protein which prevents or lessens the severity of *Chlamydia* infection in the immunized mouse compared to a non-immunized control mouse is identified.